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5 Rec'd PCT/PTO 03 DEC 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Paul Alexander DE VRIES et al.

Serial No.: To be assigned
(National Phase of PCT/EP2003/006902)

Filed: December 3, 2004

For: METHOD FOR FRACTIONAL CRYSTALLISATION OF A METAL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 98, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the references listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. These references were cited in an International Search Report (copy enclosed) in a corresponding International Application.

Applicants present these references so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rule 104. Applicants respectfully request that these references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "Reference Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Dec. 3, 2004

By:



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SHEET 1 OF 1

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce
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(Use several sheets if necessary)

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APPLICANT
Paul Alexander DE VRIES et al.

FILING DATE
December 3, 2004

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.